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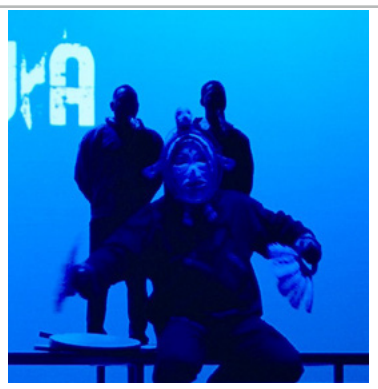
UAA Mat-Su Home of the Mat-Su College Arctic Dragons

Mat-Su Monitor

WINTER 2019 - 2020 VOLUME 43 NUMBER 3



Dancer at the Pamyua Concert, Glenn Massay Theater. Pamyua photographs by Rachelle Coutlee.

From Career Services to Career Ready!

By Adelina Rodriguez, Career Development Advisor

The goal of Mat-Su College is to provide educational opportunities and resources for students to be *Career Ready*! Based on extensive research from the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), *Career Ready* is the attainment and demonstration of requisite competencies that prepare college graduates to successfully transition into the workplace.

(NACE, 2018) There are eight competencies: Critical Thinking/Problem Solving, Oral/Written communications, Teamwork/Collaboration, Digital Technology, Leadership, Professionalism/Work Ethic, Career Management, and Global/Intercultural Fluency. According to the Job Outlook 2018 Survey, the

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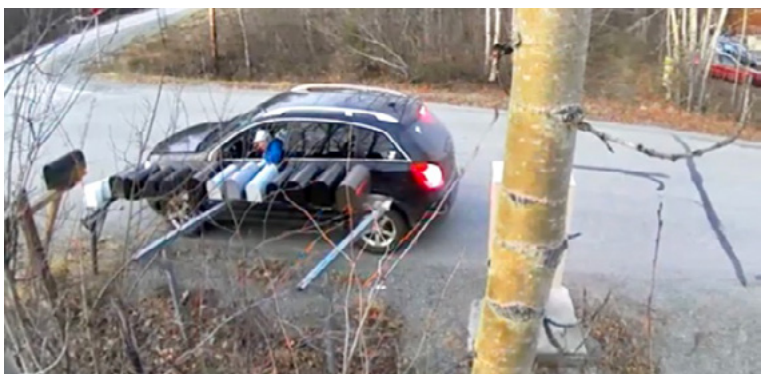

Has Your Mailbox Been Robbed?

By Cassidi O'Brien

Has your mailbox been robbed? If so, you are one of many honest people who are being robbed and vandalized in this area. This problem seems especially concentrated in the region of Wasilla and Palmer fishhook, as these areas still have open and trusting mailboxes. These areas are still rather isolated compared to the rest of the Wasilla and Palmer area, making them a prime target.

This is not an anomaly for this time of year. The darker it gets, the more time and coverage criminals have to do their dirty work. This goes for crimes

See **MAILBOXES** *page 15*

Student working in the MSC R&H lab. Photo by Brooke Corpus.

The Refrigeration and Heating program teaches every aspect of HVAC: heating, refrigeration, applied physics, mathematics, electricity. Students learn technical skills to diagnose and repair commercial and residential heating, refrigeration, air-conditioning, and ventilation systems.

Develop an ability to understand complex systems through classwork and hands-on experience, including a sheet metal lab and fully functional ammonia refrigeration system. Graduates from the R&H program at MSC have many career opportunities, can specialize in specific areas, and often graduate with a job in hand.

Check out the R&H lab in person, talk with our instructors, and get your questions answered. Sign up for a tour at https://matsu.alaska.edu/degrees/refrigeration-heating/visit.cshtml. Check out the R&H lab in person, talk with our instructors, and get your questions answered.

Jordan B Peterson and Political correctness

By Shane O'Quinn

In today's world, society can be quite polarized by personal beliefs or certain dogmas individuals may hold. One subject that is particularly heated is the use of political correctness.

One person fighting against the political correctness movement is Dr. Jordan B. Peterson. He is a professor of clinical psychology at the University of Toronto, Canada. Peterson became famous, in part, because of his willingness to speak out against the regulation of free speech.

The event in which this refers to is the debate over the Canadian bill C-16 during 2017. A part of the bill focused on the use of pronouns regarding self-proclaimed "gender." The bill went so far as to claim that refusal to use someone's preferred pronoun could result in harassment or hate crime charges, resulting in punishment such as monetary damages.

Peterson's main issue with the entire bill is that it effectively "compels speech." It opens up the possibility to

See **PETERSON** *page 2*

Upcoming events:

December 3: Journey event: Building Resilience. FSM 204, 12:00-12:50 PM.

December 2-14: Library extended hours; open until 10:00 PM Monday-Thursday.

December 2, 3, 5: Therapy dog petting sessions. FSM lobby, 11:00 - 1:00 PM.

December 7: Cram Jam. Snodgrass Hall, 10:30 - 2:00 PM.

December 9-12: Campus Cache Book Buyback, 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM.

December 13: Campus Cache Book Buyback, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

December 16: Campus Cache Book Buyback, 09:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

December 19: Grades available in UA online.

December 24-January 1: Campus closed.

January 13: Spring semester begins.

January 24: Add/Drop Deadline.

Club meeting times:

Alaska Native Cultures Club: Wednesdays, 2:30-3:30 PM, FSM 201.

All Who Code Club: Tuesdays, 2:20-4:00 PM, ANSEP Portable 2.

Mat-Su Monitor: Wednesdays, 3:15-4:15 PM, Library 214.

Math Club: Mondays, 2:30-3:30 PM, SNOD 124.

Student Government: Wednesdays PM, 12:00-12:50, Library 14.

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World of Statecraft

By Ricque Antolin

Professor Skinner's Intro. to Political Science class has begun a new project. The Statecraft Simulations website provides options for real world situations. The class focuses on an international relations-orientated simulation which contains the aspects of trading, structure building, and even terrorism. There are seven countries in total that make up the online world: Abalon, Amaratia, Land of Vai, Latveria, Pax, Rivendell, and Wakanda. Tensions are high between groups as they prepare their countries for the future; a future that could contain war, more specifically, nuclear war. Each week there is a new turn in which groups decide on steps to further develop their countries. Some focus on building resources and some are military orientated. Learning who to trust is one of the most difficult parts of the simulation. The suspense builds as each group is unaware of others' intentions. Wise choices must be made by the presidents who run their countries. In the world of the Statecraft simulation, the outcomes are endless. Hopefully this virtual world will not come to a bitter end.

FOOD DRIVE

Bring in your donations to help support our local food bank. Donation containers can be found throughout the campus.

Sponsored by the Math Club

Moon Bird

By E. Farris

The wind smashed into Coro's face. He wobbled at the impact but returned his bearings. The ocean was vast and even vaster from above. It glowed in the moonlight. A small boat sat atop the ocean like oil in a cup. It was still, like the ocean. Coro landed in the boat.

To his surprise, a beautiful young woman lies sleeping in the boat. Coro was taken by her beauty, beauty that challenged the Valia the Matron. Upon closer inspection, she had dry, chapped lips and flaking skin. Coro recognized "the thirst."

He had to get her to land, to a river. But the land was not in sight and Coro couldn't fly her to land. So he beat his wings into the ocean. His wings burned in the acid of man. He continued to beat his wings, catching the scent of land on the wind. Slowly his wings were eaten away by the acid of the ocean.

After long hours half of his lustrous wings were gone. The dawn broke over the horizon, a coast was near. Coro flapped his wings with new vigor. Clouds blocking the sky shrouded the sun. A small house sat near the beach. A young woman in a warm coat and a lantern by her side sat just before the beach. She stood peering toward the boat.

"Sadie!" she called and the young woman in the boat stirred. Coro beat his wings faster. The woman ran to the tide as the boat was swept in. She grabbed Sadie by her shoulders and shook her awake.

"Melinda," she said hoarsely. Melinda dragged Sadie from the boat and past the beach. She laid her down and ran into the house. Coro stepped from the boat onto the man's poisoned ground. His feet burned as he walked up the beach. He looked down at the girl called Sadie and smiled. Melinda came running with a jar of water. The sun broke through the clouds enveloping Coro; he faded away. Dem the Matron mourned Coro.

Mat-Su College Special Santa

Come join your Student Government in making the children of the valley's holidays bright! Sign up in the Student Government office JKB 114.

When: December 14th, 10 am - 12 pm

Where: Clocktower Building,
290 N Yenlo St. Suite 38 Wasilla

Business owners!

The Mat-Su Monitor is a great place to advertise your business or event. The Monitor has a wide circulation, with thousands of copies inserted in the Frontiersman and distributed throughout the Valley.
We also have low rates:

Ad Size	Cost, Color
3" x 3"	$75
5" x 5"	$125
7" x 7"	$175
Full page	$300
Full page	$375

Moreover, the Monitor runs relatively few ads, which ensures that your ad will stand out. Finally, advertising in the Monitor demonstrates your support for local students.
For more on advertising, call **745-9758.**

The Best/Worst of 2019 (So far…): the Final Sharpe Review

By Michelle Sharpe

Hi everyone. I love movies and tv shows. More than that, I love telling people about what I've seen. Are you curious about what you've missed at the theaters? Are you curious about what is really bad out there? If you want great recommendations for quality movies, this is the list for you. If you want to read some rants, this is also the list for you.

Best Musical: Rocketman (R)

Not only is this movie the best musical, I think this is my favorite movie of the year. It's a semi-biographical/fantastical musical about Elton John's life. The struggles and triumphs of Elton John's career and personal life are brought to life by Taron Edgerton, who not only plays John to perfection, he sings the songs. Actually sings them! Even if you do not like Elton John, this is a great movie about self-acceptance and the importance of loving yourself. It's so good and I recommend it to everyone.

Best Live Action Disney Adaption/The Only Kid Movie You Will Find On This List: Aladdin (PG)

There are many reasons why this movie should not have worked. The director is the same guy who did Snatch and Sherlock Holmes, which are both fantastic movies but they don't exactly scream ideal candidate to direct a Disney musical. Will Smith as Genie? Hot Jafar (seriously, Jafar has an eight pack)?! Yet, it's these odd choices that make this movie work. The additional songs and characters even work and give more depth to the story. Most of all, this film didn't take itself too seriously and it stuck to its comedic tone. It wasn't a perfect movie, but I would be lying if I didn't come out of this movie hoping for a sequel (which is apparently now in the works).

Best Comic-Book Adaptation: The Boys (R)

Not technically a movie, but arguably one of the best things that 2019 has to offer. The Boys is an Amazon original series that is an adaptation of Garth Ennis's comic series of the same name. Essentially, it begs the question what if superheroes existed in our world and they had the same celebrity and corporate culture? Quick answer, superheroes would do whatever they want to whoever they want with few consequences. Which is where the titular Boys come in. This series is a riot and I recommend it to all adults with Amazon Prime. Also, if your teenager asks if they can watch this, best look at the parental advisory first. It might make you blush.

Best Movie That No One Saw: Ready or Not (R)

Arguably the most fun I've had in the cinema all year, this horror/comedy/thriller is the epitome of a good time. It follows the chaotic wedding night where a bride (played by Samara Weaving, remember her name, she's amazing and will be a household name soon. I'm betting on it.) is forced to play hide and go seek with a deadly twist: her husband's family is hunting her down. I won't say much more than that. Go watch this movie right now. It's great.

Movie Featuring Best Villain Played by an Actor Who was Apparently Sick of Playing Hollywood Heartthrobs: The Nightingale (R)

Normally I avoid recommending controversial movies. Especially films with sensitive subject matters. However, since this movie took such care to be historically accurate and had amazing character development, I had no choice but to recommend it. The movie follows an Irish convict named Claire who hires an aboriginal tracker named Billy to track down a British officer in the Tasmanian wilderness. This movie is disturbing and caused a stir at every film

See **2019 REVIEW** *page 15*

MAT-SU MONITOR STAFF

Editor
Jason Dunham

Feature Writers
Ricque Antolin
Katrina Clayton
Brooke Corpus
Louanne Corpus
Rachelle Coutlee
Gary Deadmond
Miles Gibson
Angeli Kristovich
Cassidi O'Brien
Shane O'Quinn
Michelle Sharpe
Sergio West

Contributing Writers
Jamie Beebe
Mesa Burgstahler
Adelina Rodriguez

Photographer
Brooke Corpus

Advisors
Audrey Badger
Micah Muer

The *Mat-Su Monitor* is the student newspaper of Mat-Su College. The *Monitor* aims to report college news and serve as a forum for student writing. The *Monitor* seeks submissions of news, editorials, and short fiction from all students, staff, and faculty of Mat-Su College. All students are invited to attend the *Monitor*'s weekly meetings. Details on participating in or submitting content to the *Monitor* can be found at *https://matsu.alaska.edu/offices/student-government/student-clubs/mat-su-monitor.cshtml*.

The Mat-Su Monitor is funded by the Mat-Su College Student Government Association and our advertisers. For information on advertising in the *Monitor* contact Micah Muer at mwmuer@alaska.edu or 907-745-9758.

The opinions expressed the *Monitor* article are solely those of its authors. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policy of the college, its students and employees, or the wider University of Alaska system.

Peterson ***continued from page 1***

the government to regulate what words are legally required in speech, like the use of pronouns. Legislation like this is unprecedented in the western world.

One argument for legislation is that it would be "respectful" to use the pronouns put forth. However, the issue with the legislation of language and pronouns comes back to personal liberty. Why should one bend their language to others' personal preferences such as self-defined "gender identity?"

In my opinion, issues like this should be dealt with between private individuals, not between governments and their citizens.

I am interested to hear what you think. Do you agree, or disagree? Please send your thoughts and responses to my university email at swoquinn@alaska.edu.

MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Play an important role on the Mat-Su College Campus. Being on a committee can help to enhance your career, give you a chance to give back to your community, and give you the opportunity to challenge yourself by helping to shape your society.

Join a Mat-Su College Student Government Council Committee

Or join one of the student clubs.

Clubs are a great place to meet like minded people, have fun, learn new things and relax.

- Alaska Native Culture Club
- All Who Code Club
- Math Club
- LGTBQIA+ Club
- Game Club
- Arroba Club
- Mat-Su Monitor

Joining a committee or club looks good on resumes and gives you a chance to connect with fellow students, staff and faculty. You owe it to yourself to try one out. If you don't see a club that interests you, can start one of your own. You can pick up a form at the Student Government office in JKB 114, near the café.

MTA Sports Center

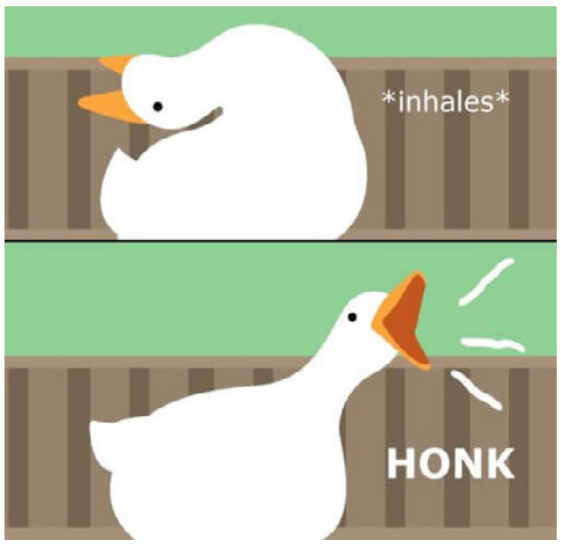
College Student Special Rate: $50/month
(need ID to prove enrollment)

Honking Good Time: Untitled Goose Game

By A. J. Crowley

With finals week upon us many students are looking for a way to relieve stress. One possible way to do so is do crimes. No! not like actual crimes, I meant as a goose!

Like many normal and perfectly sane people, I often toss and turn in bed at night kept from sleep by the same tenacious question: what if Hitman's Agent 47 were a goose? Well, me and my fellow feather-inclined friends can finally rest easy, as the unrelentingly charming and wonderfully absurd Untitled Goose Game has finally brought us the answer -- and that answer is a magical kind of fowl play that replaces murder with merciless annoyance. It's a short game, but that time is packed with plenty of laughs and simple pleasures.



Set in a minimalistic English looking village, you run around causing havoc as a goose attempting to clear your checklist chuck full of mischievous goosey tasks. It just so happens that this goose's to-do list consists of causing trouble because… well you're a goose and that's kind of what you do. Tasks range from stealing food for a picnic to untying a little boy's shoelaces, scaring him until he runs away and trips, then quickly stealing his glasses and letting him blindly search the ground until you bring him the wrong pair back. It is gloriously malevolent. Once you complete every task in an area of the map, the path to a new zone opens and you get a fresh set of victims to torment in a never-ending path of goosestruction. I adored every task I was given and fulfilling them in different ways is what gave this game the kind of stress reliever I felt I needed as finals set in. Press Y to Honk.

The Verdict:

While the runtime of Untitled Goose Game is short, the possibilities of fowl play remain endless. After completing the game more challenges unlock that point you to replay the game, but in a different way. The charm of the world and its clever challenges had me laughing and honking the whole way through. Overall, I'd give this goose a solid 8.5 out of 10 honks. Untitled Goose Game is available on Mac, PC, and Nintendo Switch.

Additional Help available in the Learning Center:

- Computer stations
- Textbooks, videos and other resources

HAVE SOME QUESTIONS? TRY ONE OF MAT-SU COLLEGE'S LEARNING SERVICES.

Elizabeth J Fallon Learning Center

OLB 121 — 745-9772

https://matsu.alaska.edu/offices/learning-resource-center/index.cshtm

WRITING TUTORS
Mon.-Wed.: 9:00 - 5:00
Thursday: 9:00 - 2:00

MATH TUTORS
Monday: 8:30 - 5:00
Tuesday: 8:30 - 5:00
Wednesday: 8:30 - 4:00
Thursday: 8:30 - 6:00
Friday: 10:00 - 2:00

ASL TUTORS
Wednesdays: 4:00 - 6:00

JAPANESE TUTORS
Monday - Tuesday: 5:30 - 6:30 by appointment

Tutors available in JKB 107. Tutoring is reserved for students enrolled in Mat-Su College courses.

Online tutoring options

- **tutor.com/Live Home Work Help**: the Alaska State Library provides the Live Homework Help service to all Alaska residents. Free, online tutors are available from 12 PM to 2 AM to help in a multitude of subjects. Visit http://lam.alaska.gov/sled/homework to get started.
- **Khan Academy**: Khan Academy has free explanatory videos on math, science, economics, history, and more. http://www.khanacademy.org/
- **Purdue OWL:** Purdue's Online Writing lab has sample papers and handy guides to APA and MLA citation styles. https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/

TRAVELER'S AID

Earn a Proactive Stamp:

- Attending a FAFSA Friday or UAA Scholarship Workshop
- Using the MSC Math or Writing Tutor services
- Joining in on a Math Cram Jam session
- Showing up to a library information session
- Meeting with a career counselor in Student Services
- Meeting with your Mat-Su College advisor

DON'T GO IT ALONE!

You're not alone on this journey! If you feel like you're losing your way, there are places to go to help you get back on track:

Counseling Services

Mat-Su College students may receive up to five free counseling appointments with an experienced behavioral health clinician. To make an appointment, call Mat-Su Health Services at 907-376-2411 and identify yourself as a Mat-Su College student. You may meet with the clinician on campus or at Mat-Su Health Services.

Campus Resources

All faculty and staff are available to assist you in achieving your educational goals. Just ask for help!

Mat-Su Valley Resources

Visit the United Way website for a complete listing of local organizations and agencies.

Pet a Therapy Dog

FSM Lobby 11 AM - 1 PM
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
December 2nd, 3rd, and 4th
Feeling stressed about finals? Take a break and hug a therapy dog! Petting a dog can lower your blood pressure, heart rate. and cholesterol. (Remember, while trained service animals are always welcome, personal pets are not allowed on campus.)

Building Resilience: Overcoming the Past and Moving Forward

FSM 204 12:00 - 12:50,
Tuesday, December 3
How our past experienced, and even those of our ancestors (Epigenetics), impact our biology and our ability to learn. Lear how to promote resilience in others and in yourself.

Snowflake Making

Atrium 11:45 AM - 1 PM
December 3rd

Receive a stamp when you...
JOURNEY
Mat-Su College
• Participate in a Journey Event
• Attend a FAFSA or Scholarship Workshop
• Join a Math Cram Jam session
• Show up to a library information session
• Meet with a Career Counselor in Student Services
• Plan for next semester by meeting with your Mat-Su College advisor

Bystander Training Journey event

By ItzMeBrookieCookie (Brooke Corpus)

On October 22, a Journey event took place to discuss what bystanders could do when they witness a problem. Because of the Diffusion of Responsibility Theory, bystanders are less likely to do something about a situation if there are more people around and are more willing to help if they are the only person in view.

This is well demonstrated in the case of Kitty Genovese. Even though she was being raped and abused in broad daylight in public, people didn't call the police until much later because their mindset was that they wouldn't need to call because someone else probably already did it. At the end of this story, the police showed up after her death. If she did survive the attack, its would be likely she would have been asked "What were you wearing?" This is called victim blaming, and honestly, it's way too common.

Another topic covered in this Journey event was rape culture and the toxic mindsets we hold. Women are held accountable for a man's actions towards her and men have to "man up" when a woman touches him without consent.

Bystander training needs to be taught among students and society. In just Alaska, 1 in 2 women report rape and 1 in 6 boys are molested. Alaska has one of the highest sexual assault report rates but we wait until the action is done to do something about it instead of preventing it from happening in the first place.

So I am asking that we teach student's awareness on what sexual abuse is, and teach what it means to be a good bystander. Let's end rape culture. It all starts with sexist jokes and rape jokes. Then sometimes, things escalate to unwanted touch, to unsolicited nudes, groping, revenge porn, threats and manipulation, to finally, victim blaming. "What were you wearing?" the judge says as if it's the victim's responsibility for someone else's actions towards them. No, it's not your fault and if you're going through this right now, contact 1-800-799-7233.

Microaggressions Event. Photograph courtesy of Brooke Corpus.

Microaggressions

On November 5th students, staff, and faculty had a chance to attend a workshop called "Responding to Microaggressions In and Outside of the Classroom." In the well-attended workshop, students learned what microaggressions are (daily, commonplace insults based on the target's membership in a group), how to respond to them, and how to avoid committing them. This was yet another succesful Journey event.

A Cat's Revenge

By E. Farris

The cat sat in the cradle begrudgingly. "It was the dog," thought the cat, "He ate the pie. Not me, not me!" The cat would not sit with this injustice. He leaped to the cradle edge and to the desk. He slinked across the desk, not to rouse the owner. Gracefully he fell from the desktop to the carpeted floor. The cat waltzed through the open door into the hall. The scent of the dog was near, he prowled down the hall, stopping at a door and peered in; the dog was drinking from the toilet bowl. The cat smiled. "The mutt is preoccupied." The cat snuck by the bathroom.

The kitchen was just passed the living room, an assortment of furniture and toys. The cat snuck past them with ease, not displacing anything. The kitchen was pristine, but the cat was going to fix that. He jumped to the counter and knocked over plastic containers onto the floor. He spilled flour and salt and sugar. He pushed over the fruit basket making a glorious mess. He left the kitchen leaving no trace of his actions. Through the living room and into the hall. As he passed the bathroom door he whispered,

"Squirrel or mailman? I couldn't tell."

The cat sprinted back into his owner's room and into the cradle. He was just in time to hear the dog crashing through the living room and then incessant barking. The owner awoke and looked to the cradle to see the cat. He left the room to find out why the dog was barking.

"What the hell Arlow!" shrieked the owner. The cat smiled.

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photograph by Jewel Burgstahler

photograph by Jewel Burgstahler

Heyí Niłtú

In November the Mat-Su College Alaska Native Cultures Club put on its fifth annual Heyí Niłtú event. Heyí Niłtú is a celebration of all indigenous Alaskan cultures. The event, held in the Glenn Massay Theater, drew dozens if not hundreds of participants and viewers. Activities included a potluck dinner, a Molly of Denali screening for the children, music and dancing, as well as a traditional clothing contest. It was one of the highlights of the semester.

photograph by Jewel Burgstahler

Photos courtesy of Cassidi O'Brien

Veteran's Day Ceremony

By Katrina Clayton

The annual Veteran's Day Flag and Table ceremony was put on beautifully at the Glenn Massay Theater. For the time that I was able to be at the ceremony, I thought it was very touching and symbolic. Every year this ceremony is dedicated to a senior veteran. This year the ceremony was dedicated to SGM Walter F. Ferguson. He was a prisoner of war from World War II and after he came home he re-enlisted a few years later and served on tour in Vietnam.

The ceremony opened with the Table portion, and this was dedicated to all the missing veterans who either suffered greatly before coming home, or who never did come home. But it was also dedicated to the families who were heartbroken as they waited for their family to come back home. There were many items on the table and they each held great symbolic meaning. There were five cadets from the Wasilla JROTC program present and, as part of the ceremony, each cadet carried a cap from each of the branches and set it on the table. They then stood at attention around the table until this portion of the ceremony was completed.

After the Table portion, the Flag portion of the ceremony began. This was conducted by three cadets from the Colony JROTC program. They first unfolded an American flag and then began refolding it. However, as they began to make each triangular fold, SMSgt (Ret) Tom Spangler would say what the symbolic meaning of each fold is, while it was being folded. Once the flag was finally folded it was handed off to SGM Walter F. Ferguson.

I think this is a very touching event that is done every year. It was quite amazing to watch and learn the meaning behind everything. To just be in the same room as someone who has done such incredible things for this country was amazing. Next year, I hope more people will take a little time out of their day to come to this ceremony that honors our military.

Thanks to the efforts of the MSC Math Club and generous volunteers, $200 was raised during the Veteran's Day Bake Sale. The funds will go to support the Wasilla Veterans Center.

Smartphone privacy: Cover your apps!

By Virgil Miller

We all know that smartphones are a privacy nightmare.

Every smartphone has built-in, always-on cameras, microphones, and geolocation tools, all of which are at least *capable* of capturing and sending data to an array of observers.

And that's just the hardware. The software our phones run is the real worry.

Start with the Android operating itself. It's produced by Google, the world's biggest advertising company. From the keyboard app to the Chrome browser app to the YouTube app, you are *constantly* interacting with Google software when you use Android. Accordingly, one study found that the Android operating system and the Chrome browser sent data to Google server's an average of 14 times an hour [1] -- and that's when the phone wasn't even in use.

Why would a phone send away so much data? Simple. Advertising companies increase their profit margins by serving ads that are more likely to lead to sales. Thus, they have every incentive of learning everything they can about you in order to serve you ads they think will especially interest you.

With Android, your entire operating system is developed by an advertising company.

But the problem doesn't begin or end with Google and Android. Many apps "phone home" about what you're doing. There are some obvious suspects. YouTube, for example, is a Google company, and the app is made by Google, so even if you're on iOS you should expect the YouTube app to send data to Google. Likewise, one imagines that Facebook, no matter the platform, reports back copious data (much of which we happily volunteer).

But there are apps that send loads off information about us -- even when we would never expect them to.

Thanks to the Exodus website[2] we can see that many seemingly innocuous apps are actually among the worst privacy violators. Exodus "analyzes Android applications in order to list the embedded trackers," trackers being bits of software that collect and report data about how we use an app or where we're at.

Take the example of "YouVersion Bible App." According to Exodus, this popular app contains 11 different tracking tools. "Tide Times" apparently has 26 trackers. "Magic Jigsaw Puzzles" is said to have 37 trackers. And "Eurosports," a sports new apps, was found to have a grand total of 46 trackers -- the most in any single app.

So what can one do about all of this? The first step is to do your homework. Before installing any new app, check it out on Exodus (link below). Read Exodus's reports for your current apps. Before signing up for some new service, try to figure out what it does with your data. One easy way to do that is by reading its summarized terms of service on tosdr.org. tosdr -- which stands for terms of service; didn't read -- takes a site or company's terms of services, usually pages and pages of legalese that spell out what rights you're giving up, and breaks it down into a few bullet points.

[1]:https://engineering.vanderbilt.edu/news/2018/study-of-google-data-collection-comes-amid-increased-scrutiny-over-digital-privacy/

[2]: https://reports.exodus-privacy.eu.org/en/

Pamyua Concert Interview

By Rachelle Coutlee

The group Pamyua had a concert last Friday, November 15. If you were there, you would have seen and heard some amazing singing, rapping, and traditional dancing. It was definitely a great way to celebrate Native American Heritage month because Pamyua showcases the Native Alaskan and Greenland Inuit cultures. Through Pamyua you catch a glimpse of the way Indigenous cultures all celebrate through music and dancing. After the concert, I got a chance to interview two members of the group and see how they modernized their cultures' songs and dances to entertain the world.

In the concert, I noticed that Ossie was given the credit for a lot of the songs that were sung that night. Ossie was the first person I talked with. He told me how he started making songs about 10 years ago and he started his own dance group about 6 years ago. When he is not doing concerts with Pamyua, he has his own company that makes drums. And because he has a reputation for making songs, he has been asked by people and corporations, such as Bristol Bay Native Corporation, to compose a song for them. He feels that there is potential for the younger generation to start fitting into the culture as they are and celebrating who we are today and how traditional culture and people have evolved into the modern times. He feels that the younger generation should step up and keep the traditions of composing songs and dances alive because if we are to keep our culture thriving, we should change with the times. I believe that Ossie is right. We, as a younger generation, are able to fit into our culture as we are. We can still keep our traditions but bring new ones.

After speaking with Ossie, I spoke with Stephen.

Where do they get their influences of the songs that they sing?

He spoke about how they are Yupik iterations of traditional dance songs and there is a mixture of older and new songs. There are a couple songs with Greenlandic influences where they got inspired by their melodies and words, for lack of a better word, and they composed those songs. He spoke about how each person is inspired by their own influences. Philip is inspired by reggae and artists such as Bob Marley. He contributes more of the soulful songs inspired by artists such as Stevie Hathaway, Guy, and Anthony Hamilton. Each person will come with an idea of a song or an introduction of a potential new song and then everyone will come together and collaborate to finish the song.

How often do they get together?

They see each other for performances, about two to three times a month. Recently, they had shows in New York, Washington DC, California, and Greenland. Usually it is a mixture of state shows and international shows.

What are their day jobs?

Stephen works with artists and the youth. He currently works with the Arts & Humanities Art Council in Juneau, Alaska. Ossie has his own company and sells and creates drums and songs. Philip and his wife have three companies that they own. He explained that their jobs so far have had to do with the arts because they are artists themselves.

Overall, it was a great concert. They incorporated a quintet, pianist, guitarist, and traditional dancers. If you were there, you really got to see and hear some great artists. If you didn't see them in concert, or even if you did, check them out on iTunes when you get a chance to hear what they are all about!

Mat-Su College Arctic Dragons

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The Mat-Su Monitor is open to students of all experience levels. A paper like ours always needs writers, artists, graphic designers, advertisement coordinators, photographers, and more (maybe you can contribute something we haven't even thought of)!
Meetings:
Wednesdays, 3:15 - 4:15
in OLB 214 (upstairs in library).

Word on the Street: What was the last thing you listened to?

By Michelle Sharp

Jaime: My Favorite Murder (podcast).

Rylee: Big Al - Dangerzone (song).

Micaiah and Rose: Bren Joy - Twenties (song).

Angeli: Musiq Soulchild (artist).

Shane: Alan Watts - Death (lecture).

Samm: Welcome to Nightvale (podcast).

Haley (no picture): One Republic - Apologize (song).

The Bet

By E. Farris

Setting: An empty bar with a single bartender. Four stools line the bar counter and two are occupied by two people wearing suits and colorful party masks. The one on the right has a black mask with red accents where sideburns, beards, and mustaches would be; this is S. Tina. The other's mask is white until it reaches the eyes then it blends into a sky blue for the rest of the mask; this is D. Ace. The two people are having a conversation about their bet.

S. Tina: Looks like I'm winning this bet old friend.

D. Ace: What? How do you see that?

S. Tina: Humanity is killing itself faster than mother nature.

D. Ace: Ha. You obviously haven't been paying attention. Mother nature is easily going to win. When the San Andreas fault breaks and the yellow erupts, millions will die. And the aftermath of such an event will kill even more. The air will be unbreathable, water undrinkable, vegetation will die as well do to lack of sun and clean water.

S. Tina: I'll give you that, but your thinking on too small of a scale. Three words: World War Three. That's coming way before the fault and Yellowstone, plus it encompasses the globe. And with nukes, it will be an extinction-level event.

D. Ace: You have too little faith in humanity. They have had nuclear weapons for almost a century now and they haven't done anything with them since they first used them, they have seen the devastation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

S. Tina: Suppose your right and there is no WW3. There are still terrorists, arsonists, shooters, serial killers, suicides, muggings gone wrong, home break-ins, revenge, etc. With all the people killing each other humanity will kill itself before mother nature.

D. Ace: Please. Do you know how many people die from starvation? It's nine million. And man didn't cause starvation, mother nature did.

S. Tina: Do you know how many die from war? 50-80 million died in WW1 and WW2 alone. Imagine that on a greater scale, humanity would cease to be. Besides, starvation is easily remedied with food.

D. Ace: Speaking of remedies, what of plague? Mother nature's Black Death killed around 25 million and over one million die today from illness and disease.

S. Tina: But in the long haul is that enough to kill all of humanity? Won't they adapt, or find a cure? There is no cure for war. As long as there are humans there will be war.

D. Ace: You don't believe humanity will step beyond such pettiness?

S. Tina: Not as long as a single human is willing to kill millions for pettiness. And do you truly believe mankind won't conquer nature?

D. Ace: They haven't even been to the bottom of the sea or the farthest reaches of the stars.

S. Tina: True. But who to say they won't explore it before destroying themselves?

D. Ace: You believe in human ingenuity but not human virtue?

S. Tina: Yes, and you believe the reverse.

D. Ace: The sun would explode before humanity could move to space. They would lose their moon before that. And by the time that happens, they will be long dead.

S. Tina: Ha! In the last 50 years, their technology has advanced expediently. That is why it will be their undoing. A machine uprising.

D. Ace: Please. A machine uprising?

S. Tina: Yes, humans made them, to make themselves better, but things made by imperfection will always be imperfect. Such as nature.

D. Ace: Excuse me! Nature is perfect. Humans are the ones that decided they were better than nature and threw a wrench into its cycle of life and death.

S. Tina: So your saying, if humans went back to the nature cycle they would forego extinction?

D. Ace: Exactly. Nature destroys so it can renew and be reborn. It's why there are so many natural disasters. It is nature taking its course.

S. Tina: Human ambition is greater than the call of nature if you ask me. That's why I'm winning.

D. Ace: Mother nature is unrelenting so clearly, I will win.

Action: Both figures turn to the bartender.

Both: What do you think?

MATH BATTLE!!

After a few years of dormancy, the Mat-Su College Math Club is back. One of the first activities the Math Club students organized was a Math Battle in which participants demonstrated their skill with numbers. It was a good event, and just the first in a string of events that the Math Club has done or plans to do (see the Board Game Day event covered in this issue).

Photos courtesy of Jaime Carle.

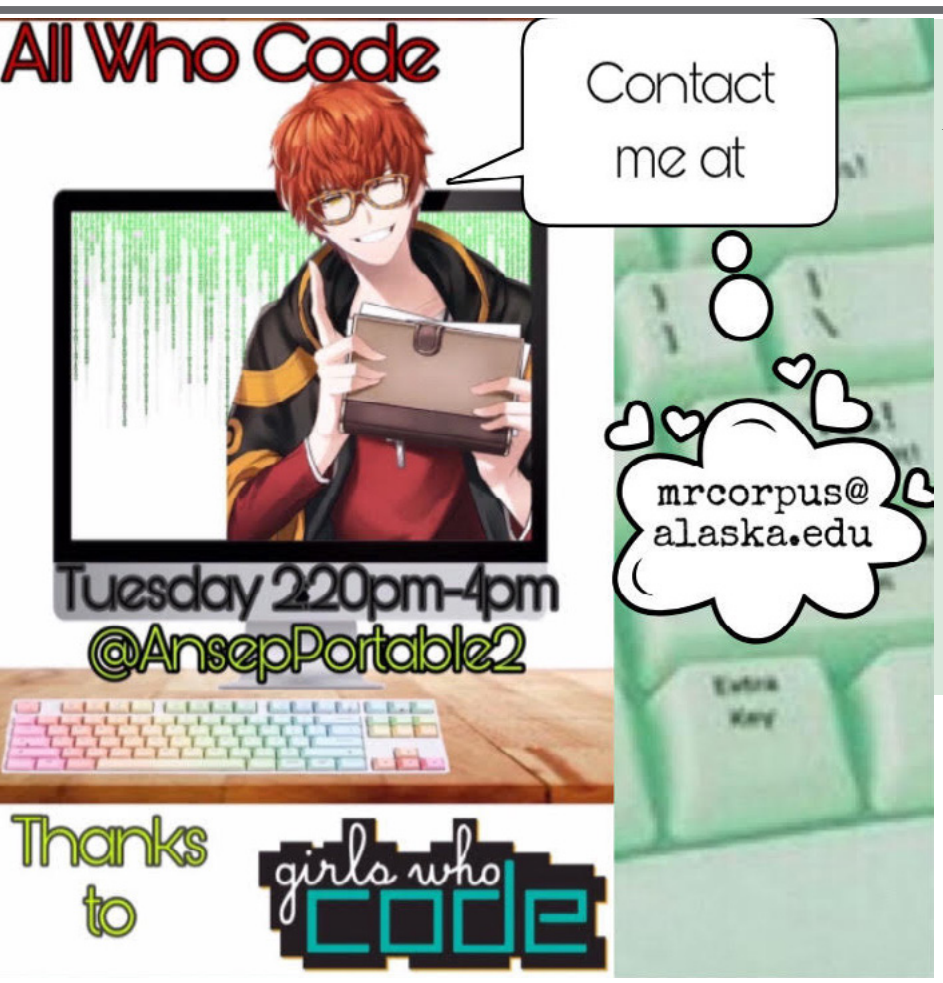
Dance of the Dead Review

By Katrina Clayton

The Dance of the Dead, put on by student government, was on November 1st at the Glenn Massay theater. I went with a friend and had a wonderful time. My only complaint was that there wasn't enough people there. Not enough people came, and they missed out on quite the event. There was great music, dancing, free food and drinks, and games in the corner. Everyone that went was in costume and had a great time. Micah Muer, an advisor at Mat-Su College, also attended, though his dancing did scare some people off the dance floor. We saw some awesome dancing going on from all kinds of genres, including Micah's. There was also some great participation with the games. Overall, it was an awesome event and everyone who went had a great time.

Math Club Hosts Board Game Day

On November 22nd, the Mat-Su College Math Club hosted one of its regular Board Game days. While free pizza and refreshments were provided, students were asked to supply their own board games, which allowed each student to share their favorite game with a friendly crowd. Games played included Candy Land, Utter Nonsense, and Monopoly. Turnout was good, but you can make it even better by showing up for the next Board Game Day!



Introduction to All Who Code

By ItzMeBrookieCookie (Brooke Corpus)

All Who Code is a club dedicated to all students at Mat-Su College. The purpose of this club is to bring together a group of students who have an interest in coding and creating their own programs.

This year, All Who Code will be focusing on making your own personal website and designing it however you'd like with HTML language (which handles font, color, and graphics in websites).

For many students, this is a great opportunity to show off to employers, and something to write on applications, scholarships, etc.

In this club, we encourage students to bring their ideas to life and learn something new. Or, alternatively, if you've taken coding before, bettering your skills as a programmer. But of course being an expert is not a requirement.

You don't have to be a super genius who can type 100 words per minute effortlessly. There are no limitations to what you can do and there are no requirements to participate in this club.

We as a club are still learning and any level of programmers are allowed to participate. We all have a common interest and that is coding.

Contact: mrcorpus@alaska.edu or misspandasia_express on instagram

LGBTQIA+ Club coming soon

Math Club

MEETINGS;
MONDAYS 2:30-3:30
SGH 124
& via Zoom!

"We may not be private eyes, but we can find your X"

Arroba Sp@nish Club

by Claudia Jones

The main goal of Arroba is to provide a fun opportunity for students to practice the Spanish language, as well as the cultures of Spanish speaking countries around the world.

Name of the club:
Arroba "Spanish Club"

Participants:
All UAA students

Dates: September 5,19

Location: FSM 105

Times: 12:15 -12:45pm

Criteria of Membership:
Be registered for or have taken Spanish 101

GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT

MEETINGS EVERY WEDNESDAY
12-1 OLB 214
(UPSTAIRS IN THE LIBRARY)

Alaska Native Cultures Club
Weekly meetings on Wednesday
2:30pm-3:30pm in room FSM 201
Everyone is welcome to attend!
Mat-Su college
For more information, visit

Monitor

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Wednesdays
3:15- 4:15 OLB 214
(Upstairs in the Library)

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- Photographers
- Writers
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Now taking submissions

Michelle's Crepe Recipe

By Michelle Sharpe

This is my personal recipe that is always a hit, no matter the occasion. The crepe recipe is easy to double or half depending on how many people you are cooking for. These crepes are quick to make, easily customized, and are filling but not too heavy.

Crepes

Ingredients:

- 1 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 3 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 tablespoons melted butter

Preparation:

1. Beat room temperature cream cheese, sugar, milk, lemon juice, and vanilla extract together in a medium mixing bowl until texture is smooth and spreadable. Set aside.
2. Combine flour, sugar, and salt in a small bowl
3. Beat three eggs in a large bowl. Add milk, vanilla, and melted butter.
4. Incorporate dry ingredients into the wet mixture. Mix well until there are no lumps.
5. Heat a medium sized pan over medium heat. Lightly butter it.
6. Pour one cup of mixture into pan and swivel pan to evenly distribute crepe mixture on the bottom of the pan.
7. Cook for about a minute, or until crepe is no longer sticking to the bottom of the pan and then flip. Cook for another 30 seconds and then remove crepe from heat
8. Put filling into crepe with fruit mixture, fold and serve with powdered sugar or whipped topping if desired
9. Repeat steps until mixture is gone

This recipe generally makes around 10-12 crepes depending on pan size.

Filling:

Ingredients:

- 2 8-ounce blocks of cream cheese room temperature)
- ¼ cup milk or heavy whipping cream (Optional)
- granulated sugar (to taste- I use between ¼ cups and ½ cups of sugar)
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Fruit of your choice (I typically use strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, as well as any seasonal fruit like mangoes or pineapples. I've also used cooked apples and cinnamon)
- *(Optional)* Slice an entire container of strawberries in a large bowl, combine with 1/8 cup of sugar and a splash of lemon juice

And that's it! This breakfast has quickly become my family's favorite breakfast meal. It's great for Mothers' Day, or for family gatherings where you need to cook for multiple people or if you want to make someone feel special. It's also simple enough for young people to learn. I've had 6-9 year olds making this with me and they were flipping crepes like pros in no time. I'm telling you, if you tell people you know how to make crepes, they will instantly be impressed. They don't need to know how easy it is! Crepes are foolproof and delicious! Bon Appetit!

Etta's Pumpkin Pie

By Jamie Beebe

This is a special submission from a Minnesota-based baker. Please visit Jamie's blog at https://northernginger.com/.

This family-favorite pumpkin pie has a perfect flavor blend of molasses-tinged custard, pumpkin, and spices. Even the most staunch pumpkin pie haters have loved this pie! It's great eaten as is, and even better with a dollop of maple whipped cream. Simple and quick to make, it's the perfect thing to add to your holiday table.

Makes 1 9-inch pie; 12 servings

Ingredients

For the crust:

- 1 1/4 c all-purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 T sugar
- 1/2 c cold butter, cut into small pieces
- 3-5 T cold water
- flour to roll out
- For the filling:
- 1/2 c brown sugar, packed
- 1 T all-purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp cloves
- 1 can pumpkin puree (15oz, or 1 3/4c)
- 1 can evaporated milk (12oz)
- 2 eggs
- 2 T molasses

Instructions

For the Crust:

1. In a large bowl, combine flour, salt, and sugar.
2. Using your hands, massage butter into the flour mixture until butter pieces are about pea-sized (or slightly bigger).
3. Drizzle cold water into the butter-flour mixture 1 T at a time, gently mixing with a fork or your hands as you go.
4. Once your dough gets to the point where all the flour is moistened and it's starting to come together, press together gently to form a ball. Make sure not to overwork the dough – you want those butter chunks to stay cold!
5. Wrap or cover dough and chill for 1 hour. (You can do this part ahead of time, wrap dough tightly in plastic wrap, place in an airtight container, and refrigerate overnight or freeze for up to a month.)
6. Once dough is chilled, roll out on a floured surface to about 1/8" thick. Place in your pie pan and trim the edges so you have about a 1" overhang. Fold the overhang under so you have a clean, thick edge, and crimp as desired.

Pop it in the fridge while you make the filling.

For the filling:

- Preheat oven to 450°F
- In a large mixing bowl, combine all filling ingredients.
- Using a whisk, mix until well combined and smooth.
- Pour into prepared pie crust. Note: filling will be VERY liquidy. Be careful when moving the pie to oven.
- Bake at 450°F for 10 minutes, then lower the temp to 350°F.
- Bake for another 30 minutes, or until center is set.
- Cool completely on cooling rack. Cover and refrigerate. This pie is best if refrigerated for several hours or overnight before eating.
- Serve topped with maple whipped cream, if desired.
- Stored covered in the refrigerator, pie will stay fresh for 3-4 days.

Maple Whipped Cream:

- 1 pint heavy whipping cream
- 1 1/2 T pure maple syrup
- 1 tsp vanilla

Put whipping cream, maple syrup, and vanilla into the stand mixer bowl fitted with a whisk attachment. Beat, starting on low speed and slowly increasing to high speed. Beat for about 3-4 minutes or until soft-to-medium peaks form.

Bride of the Alternative Holiday Celebration Returns: For the Holidays

By Ripken Spiffmore

Welp, its December again and you know what that means, everyone's favorite pseudo-Christian-golden-turbo-idol-worship-to-capitalism-holiday is nearly here. But for some of us these can be some of the darkest, most desperate times, and for many it is. But not as dark as these freaky deek true crime X-mass Murderers. Check these gruesome Christmas crimes out.

In a suburb near Los Angeles December 24th, 2008, Jeffrey Pardo -- no relation to Don -- showed up at his ex-wife's house where she was hosting a Christmas party for about 25 people. He Was wearing a festive Santa Claus outfit and armed with a homemade flamethrower and 4 semi-automatic pistols. He opened fire on the house, killing 9 people including his own daughter. But he didn't stop there. Using his homemade flamethrower powered by racing fuel, he also burned the house to the ground. Although he was found with a pre-bought plane ticket, he ended up killing himself to avoid being taken into custody. Bringing the body count to 10 in what the news called the Santa Massacres and forever traumatizing California youths.

Maybe True Crime is a little to dark for you around the darkest day of the year you can always lighten things up with the holiday of Human Light. It is traditionally celebrated on December 23rd since its creation by the New Jersey Humanists Network in 2001 in Verena, New Jersey. It is a day to celebrate reason, compassion, humanity and hope. Its basically all the feel-good reasons of Christmas without the overspending and awkward family dinners explaining why you're still in college 12 years later.

Maybe that is a little too feel good. Maybe you want something silly and fun. Why not this year try out Newtonmas, as made famous by the television show The Big Bang Theory. The holiday can be described -- I think the best way -- as a holiday for people that don't want to go to Jesus's big day, instead they go celebrate with everyone's favorite son of science, Sir Isaac Newton. He happens to have the Same birthday as Jesus. Michael Shermer, founder of the Skeptics Society, started sending out invitations for old Newton in 1980 when he created the holiday. Celebration activities include the exchanging of gifts, but the gifts are limited to science books. You know what, now that I am explaining it it sounds neither fun nor silly. In fact, it sounds rigid and boring. Also, as a college student we know how expensive textbooks can be. This holiday could be more expensive than Christmas, and probably should be avoided. This goes to show you can't trust everything you learn on sitcoms. Oh well.

Ripkin's favorite holidays involve the 3 D's of any great party; drinking, debauchery, and more drinking. I don't know about you but when I think of debaucherously booze-soaked super-parties, I think Ancient Rome. I mean, right. They did not fail me. The seven-day festival known as Saturnalia was a seven-day party when anything went. As this was ancient Rome we are talking about, there was drinking, there was orgies, there was animal sacrifices. This party had it all. All to honor their kick-ass pagan god Saturn. For me, this is the best bet for tying a new tradition. It ends on Christmas Eve so you can still make it traditional but if your family is mad about the hellish hang-over Saturnalia is sure to cause, you can tell them that Saturn is your new God. Boom, religious immunity.

Any way as another year comes to close what ever way you choose to celebrate, be excellent to yourself and each other. Or don't -- what do I care? I am riding this yule buzz into 2020!

Our Dystopian Nature

By Mesa Burgstahler

Today i had a dream.
Or a nightmare.
about peace. And harmony.
The people were dark.
In clumps and lines stretching down the streets of a country's capital.
Some were knit black.
From hat to socks.
Some were skin black.
God made them that way.
Some were heart black.
Were they born that way too?
Some were all three black.
And they marched through the streets.
Unified with a great idea.
And as they marched they shouted.
Voices a cacophony of curses.
My ears hurt.
And as they marched they broke windows.
With hammers.
And as they marched they told. the world. what they wanted.
They shouted for peace and harmonyPEACE AND HARMONYpeace and harmony
Peace. and harmony.
And their signs stringing along pleaded. Out. their message.
MAKE RACISTS AFRAID AGAIN
Or did it say peace and harmony?
I can't remember.
And they marched into a building
They had to charge police, but they were safe.
They had gas masks
And wanted PEACE AND HARMONY
And they met the other factionless. and voted. to make one last game. with the capitals children.
To get revenge
No. No.
It was for peace and harmony. Yes.
And i woke up. And i started to cry because
It wasn't a dream
And if it wasn't a dream
Is my heart black too?
Are my dark clothes knit with the words of a dystopian novel?
And I wanted my tears to wash away the sounds of their voices calling
for peace. and harmony.

Get involved with YOUR paper!

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Meetings: Wednesdays 3:15-4:15 in OLB 214 (upstairs in library).

The Outer Worlds: First Impression

By Sergio West

I just started playing "The Outer Worlds" and here are my thoughts so far. I made a charismatic character who was slightly stealthy and smart. When I initially entered combat, I went in stealthy and then guns blazing. I quickly died. I died three times after that. Then I started using cover more and running away. After my first gunfight, I was directed toward a town.

Along the way, I took some detours and found a lot of human enemies. I also noticed a lot of exploding barrels in the combat area. I rarely shot at these as I was to busy running around in a circle to not get shot. I noticed enemies often drop health items; this was a god-send early on for me because I wasted all healing items getting accustomed to the controls (This may also be the cause for a lot of my early game deaths). I also found myself running out of money upgrading my weapons' damage at a workbench.

Workbenches are not just for upgrading weapon damage and armor defense, they also are for adding mods and breaking down equipment for parts. Parts are used to repair gear the character wears, which is also performed at the workbench.

Skills shape your builds. Every level, you get ten skill points to spend as you please. At first, one point levels up all three ranged skills, but when they reach 50 points you have to invest in that skill only. I feel this is to fine-tune your build, you can get adept (40 points) in three skills then pick the one you prefer and master it. You get perks every other level as a sort of bonus.

An example is the perk Slow the World: +25% Tactical Time Dilation (TTD) Meter Max. (Tactical Time Dilation is the ability to slow down time.) Slow the World is not a big boost but you can see its effects in combat, guns that normally you could only fire once during TTD can be fired twice to three times.

Another way to get perks is through flaws. These are optional negative effects that take place when its conditions are met. I received the "robophobia" flaw that lowered certain stats in the presence of robots in return for a perk. It makes the game more interesting and plays toward role-playing. I am excited to see other flaws.

I enjoyed talking to the NPCs (Non-Player Characters) and moral choices were sometimes hard to make. But, stealing was not that hard. I could walk up to any container and just grab something and nobody noticed. Pickpocketing was only challenging when there were two people or the subject of my pickpocketing was walking around. And if I got caught, I used my high persuasion to talk my way out of it.

With all the choices and different build options, I can see the game having a lot of replayability. I am excited to see the end and start another character.

GAME ON

K	A	S	O	R	G	G	A	S	W	I	P	E	I	T	O	S	T	A	M
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C	I	P	B	I	O	A	E	N	L	O	O	T	T	O	S	S	A	V	E
K	T	Y	Y	L	W	M	K	M	I	I	O	B	O	M	H	T	K	L	I
E	S	H	P	B	U	S	H	C	A	M	P	E	R	S	O	A	E	A	T
D	R	S	G	W	U	E	O	T	I	E	P	S	M	T	T	C	H	U	R
I	I	R	H	I	W	R	D	R	O	P	B	I	T	U	T	K	I	N	A
P	H	I	E	D	E	R	E	T	T	O	P	Y	R	R	A	H	G	C	I
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A	C	Y	R	I	R	O	A	L	G	U	O	A	E	N	A	P	G	G	E
M	R	B	M	M	N	I	B	N	F	C	B	C	R	G	E	S	N	R	V
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E	P	O	P	D	L	E	I	H	S	Y	O	V	C	L	D	H	O	O	G
B	E	L	B	B	U	B	U	P	T	A	C	N	O	K	E	C	M	O	G
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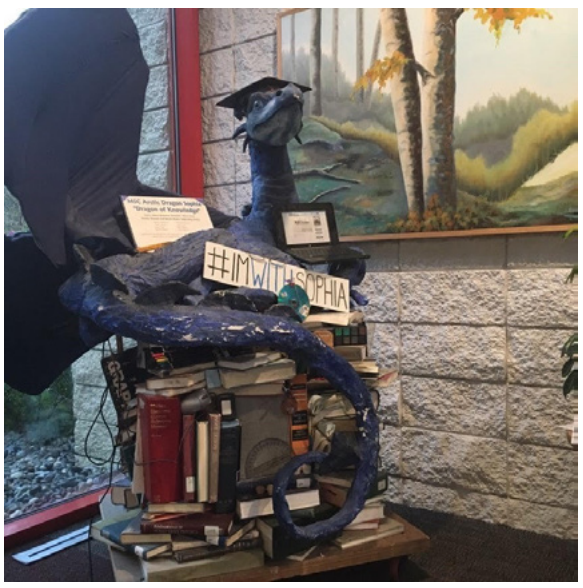
S	A	N	D	B	O	X	N	E	I	L	A	S	E	R	E	D	S	E	W

Circle the words from the list below. Place the leftover letters in the spaces for a special message!

AGGRO	DROP	LOOT	SANDBOX	TAC
ALIEN	ELECTRO SHUFFLE	MAKE IT RAIN	SAVE	TAKE HIGH
BEAMED	ELECTRO SWING	MANSION	SHIELD POP	TAKE THE L
BEST MATES	ENDERMAN	MATS	SKELLY BUTT	THIRSTING
BIOME	FULL SEND	MINE	SLIP STREAM	TURTLING
BLUE	GET HEIGHT	MINIS	SMOOTH MOVES	VANILLA
BUBBLE	HARRY POTTERED	MOB	SPLODES	WESTERN
BUILD BATTLE	HEALS	MOD	STACK	WHITE
BUSH CAMPERS	HYPE	MOJANG	STEVE	WIGGLE
CHUG SPLASH	JUBILATION	ONE BY ONE	STOP	WORM
CRACKED	KNOCKED	ONE SHOT	STORM FLIP	
CREEPER	LASERED	PICKAXE	STORM TROOPERS	
DIP	LAUNCHING	REBOOT	STRIP MINING	
DISCO FEVER	LLAMA BELL	REDSTONE	SWIPE IT	



Sophia photo courtesy of Brooke Corpus.

SUDOKU

Fill the grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3 x 3 section contains all of the digits 1 through 9.

	2		6		8			
5	8				9	7		
				4				
3	7					5		
6								4
		8					1	3
				2				
		9	8				3	6
			3		6		9	

Why are Christmas trees bad at knitting? Because they always drop thier needles.

Here's how it works: A R C T I C D R A G O N

is B S D U J D E S B H P O

One letter stands for another. In this example the letter B stands for the letter A so all the Bs stand for the letter A, Ds stand for C, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, and word length are all clues. The code letters are different for every puzzle.

A C E G I K M P R T V C P R I C V X

E G Z A C E G I K M P R T B P T D Z .

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Careers *continued from page 1*

employers' survey rated Critical Thinking/Problem Solving as most essential, followed by Teamwork/Collaboration. To learn about each competency visit our Career Readiness webpage at https://goo.gl/vYVeMz or schedule an appointment with your Career Development Advisor in Student Services, 907-745-9746.

As a Mat-Su student, you have the opportunity and potential to attain these eight competencies from the first day you step on campus, up to the day you walk across the Glenn Massey Theater stage as a college graduate. From classroom instruction, to engaging with the available resources on campus, you are at the helm of your academic journey to become career ready upon graduation. How can the Career Development office help you become *Career Ready*? Here are some examples:

Career Exploration: researching the required skills, strengths and knowledge for a potential career is developing your Career Management competency. Working with both your Career Development and Academic Advisor on the necessary steps to pursue your career goal will reinforce your understanding on how to self-advocate for opportunities in the workplace.

Preparing your Resume and Cover Letter: as preliminary application documents, these display more than just your interest and experience related to the prospective job; but most importantly, it is an example of your written communication skills. Once invited to an interview, you will not only demonstrate your oral communication skills but also Career Management. The Career Development office invites you to schedule an appointment to review your resume, cover letter and participate in a mock interview.

How can the Career Development office help you become *Career Ready*?

Professional Development: being prepared for class, your punctuality, image (dressed appropriately for situation), maintaining your demeanor (even in stressful situations) and exhibiting qualities such as honesty, integrity and being humble (not being afraid to admit being wrong or needing help) are building blocks to career success. Even consider your email address, what image does it portray? Your email address is part of your professional identity and should not be suggestive, flirtatious or silly. You will not only be developing your Professionalism/Work Ethic but also building upon a vast majority of the competencies. Visit with the Career Development Advisor to identify strategies and resources to help you grow as a professional.

Malcolm X stated, "Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today." Your education is one part of *career success*. Start your career and professional journey today, by visiting with the Career Development office to help you successfully transition from being a student to becoming *Career Ready*.

Mailboxes *continued from page 1*

outside of mailbox robberies as well. A lot of people find personal goods, including mail, missing this time of year and it is not by chance.

There are a few key reasons people are being hit this time of year. First off, dividends have come in. Second, so have the holidays. Third, darkness is taking hold; and so are the thieves. They aren't just looking for the Amazon packages on your doorstep anymore, the interest can lie in your personal information.

This is a more common trend we are seeing these days. A thief can take a letter or two from your mailbox and retrieve your name, birth date, place of work, spouse's name, their DOB, and other pertinent personal information. They can use this information to access bank accounts, or even open new bank accounts or credit cards in your name without your knowledge or consent. They can even sell that information to other thieves for a high dollar price. A personal information thief can steal so much from you without you ever knowing anything was amiss. It is the sneakiest form of theft out there today. We must be vigilant as a community to protect against this surreptitious predator.

It is time to start pulling security for yourself and your neighbors. There are measures you can implement to improve your chances of not being victimized. If you are a slope worker or away on a trip, consider asking the USPS to keep your mail until you return from your hitch or vacation. This way it will be safe from thieving hands. To solve this problem, one local mail theft victim stated, "I changed my address to a personal mailbox at The Mail Depot. I haven't had any problems with mail or packages since. Cheaper and better than a PO Box too".

Another good practice is to track your packages and pick them up as soon as they come in, this goes for paychecks as well (consider direct deposit). Always keep porch or outdoor lights on as this will deter thieves from entering your house and land. Another great option is to get to know your neighbors! We Alaskans can be gruff and keep to ourselves, but one of the best defenses is to have the ones around you have your back. They are familiar with your car, family, and your daily patterns. They are the first people to notice something amiss. Let them know when you are out of town and ask them to put car tracks down your snowy driveway when your gone for long periods of time, and do the same for them. Neighbors are good for more than borrowing a cup of sugar, I promise.

This is not an individual problem; it is a community-wide issue. These people are notoriously difficult to catch as many cars drive up to the box points for mail. Some of the thieves even drive nice cars (see pic of suspect). We all need to look out for suspicious persons. Some residents have even installed game cams to help identify these criminals. Unfortunately, most of these cameras are installed from the side and lack clarity. The police department needs a picture of the license plate to trace the driver and prosecute.

If you see something, say something! Be safe and have a happy holiday season.

2019 REVIEW *continued from page 2*

festival it was shown at. Many audience members walked out and therapists were available to audience members who needed it.

It's worth mentioning that Sam Claflin, the man famous for playing in movies like Hunger Games: Catching Fire; Adrift; Snow White and the Huntsman; and Me Before You, has apparently decided that he was done playing dreamy protagonists and took a nightmarish turn in this movie. No joke. Sam Claflin's British Officer in this movie might be the most despicable monster to ever be put to film. Anyway, if you're interested, it's on Hulu.

Best Movie Featuring an Actor Who Was Sick of Playing Hollywood Heartthrobs and a Lighthouse: The Lighthouse (R)

Former Green Goblin, Willem Dafoe and future Batman, Robert Pattinson are stranded on a lighthouse island. This movie features weird hallucinations, slow dancing, some tentacles, some fins, lots of water and drinking, farting, an evil seagull, and many crazy shenanigans. It's great. You'll love it. Watch it.

Best Stephen King Adaptation: Doctor Sleep/IT Chapter 2 (Tie) (R)

It truly was a year for Stephen King and 2/3 of the movies really nailed their adaptations. Doctor Sleep felt more like a traditional Stephen King movie from the 80's and 90's and it featured some great acting and tension. IT Chapter 2 had some great chemistry between the characters and was just a fun watch. I recommend both for the average movie goer. Neither are scary.

WORST Stephen King Adaptation: Pet Sematary (Don't watch this)

To be honest, I forget that this movie existed. Then I look up what movies I've seen this year and I see this on that list and I get angry all over again! This movie was garbage. There was no chemistry between the characters. The characters were all boring and I don't remember a single one of their names. The changes from the book added nothing to the story. I don't normally care about book to movie changes. But the kid in this movie didn't just get ran over by a truck. No. There had to be a slow motion scene where the truck flips, lands on her, skids down the road until it slowly comes to a squeaky halt. You reading this description are probably getting an image in your head and it's probably horrific. Fear not, the child was apparently struck and flew into a ditch with no physical injuries and died for plot convenience. This movie is so stupid. Don't even get me started on the ending.

Most Overrated Movie" The Joker (R)

I began having doubts about this movie when news from film festivals were basically critics and movie goers shrugging and going, "Meh…. It's fine." But then there came the dumb critics who were like, "This movie is going to cause a panic, corrupt the youth, cause forest fires, and make people think it's okay to shoot people as long as you're a sad boy!" I saw this movie twice and it did nothing for me. The acting was great. The cinematography was phenomenal. But the plot and theme were so convoluted and all over the place that it honestly felt to me that this movie did not know what it wanted to be. It definitely wasn't great and I reckon it'll be forgotten in a year or so.

Worst Sequel of 2019: Glass (R)

I loved Split. Unbreakable was fine. The finale was being set up to be the best of the series. You have James McCavoy, Bruce Willis, and Samuel L Jackson in the same film and they all have super powers. You're expecting some cool dialogue. A fight or two, some dramatic deaths, or a twist. What you got was a shot of a dark pillar with a fight happening in the distance. The lamest deaths (I'm not even worried about spoilers. This came out in February, if you wanted to watch this you would've watched it already) I have ever seen. Bruce Willis' character drowned in a mud puddle. In slow motion.

Best show of 2019: Barry (HBO)

Barry is great. There's a hitman who is depressed and wants to become an actor, shenanigans ensue, watch it.

Worst Show of 2019: Game of Thrones (HBO)

Oh boy…. I'm used to last seasons of shows letting me down. This season was so bad that it wasn't just insulting, it was comical. From the extremely dark lighting of the main battle episode, to audience members pointing out Starbucks cups and plastic water bottles, to "Daenerys forgot about the Iron Fleet," this season was a mess. Luckily, Avengers Endgame came out the same time this season was airing so nerds were far too distracted to get too upset. Also, Barry was on immediately after, so disappointment swiftly turned to delight and happiness upon seeing Bill Hader's face.

SPRING 2020

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